Indeed, he cannot doubt of our affection; but perhaps he is not yet aware how much pride, ambition, and exigence it involves.

The scent of the hay near Pavia.
The oleanders near Genoa.

The truth is that, as soon as the need to provide for it ceases to force us, we don't know what to do with our life and we waste it wantonly,

NOVEL

Almost at the start of the book, dining together in a restaurant, they examine the wrinkles they *will have.*

Hasn't there been any bankruptcy in their life, any surrender—any renunciation?

He who protests will later on make of the ability to renounce the wisdom of his whole life.

(That too can be a rule of conduct based on complacency.)

The fox with his tail cut off: he who pretends to have wanted and to prefer everything that happens to him; from this alone he wins a reputation for wisdom.

The friend to whom he had confided his youthful dreams is well aware that this is a form of bankruptcy.

Establish the bankruptcy of Christianity —those who wanted to practice it had to withdraw from, the world; Christianity was unable to form a world in the image of Christ as Buddha or Mohammed did— show that this is the *superiority* of Christ. But Catholicism set out to form a society and succeeds in doing so only by getting rid of Christ.

(All this wants to be said very mildly; horror of the tone of voice that belongs to the dispenser of justice or to the revolutionary.)

That the first duty of the Christian is to be happy; and so long as he has not achieved happiness he has not put into practice the teaching of Christ. — Christ's wonderful words: "Why weepest thou?" (To be commented on.)

Richard Feverel, *waking up* after the accident (it is

essential that the accident should be caused by love), has completely forgotten that he had reached happiness (the odd feeling he has however: apprehension).

Subject: the two lovers who wake up after having drunk of Lethe (but one after the other).

They will not begin their love all over again — quite the contrary. . . . If they disliked each other. (She, sure of the past love, of which he is ignorant, seems *bold* to him.)